

PATENT

Attorney Docket No. A-68851-1/RMS/VEJ
Attorney Matter No. 469249-00162
Application No. 09/493,741

In the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1-38. (Cancelled, without prejudice or disclaimer)

39. (Currently amended) An apparatus comprising:

a) a centrifuge comprising a rotor rotatable about an axis of rotation which includes at least one reaction vessel at a permanently fixed angle tilted with respect to said axis of rotation so that an open end of said at least one reaction vessel is pointed away from said axis of rotation; and

b) a waste reservoir connected to said centrifuge to hold liquids expelled from said reaction vessels.

40. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 39 wherein said waste reservoir is connected to the bottom of said centrifuge.

41. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 39 wherein said waste reservoir is connected with a tube to said centrifuge.

42. (Currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 39 wherein said rotor comprises a plurality of holders, each holder designed to hold at least one microtiter plate at said permanently fixed angle.

43. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 39 further comprising a liquid distribution system.

44. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 43 wherein said liquid distribution system is integrated into the centrifuge.

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45. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 39 further comprising a computer.

46. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 39 wherein said at least one reaction vessel further comprises a solid-phase support adapted for solid-phase synthesis.

47. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 46 wherein said solid-phase support is firmly attached to an interior surface of said at least one reaction vessel.

48. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 46 wherein said solid-phase support is a modified interior surface of said at least one reaction vessel.

49. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 48 wherein said at least one reaction vessel is a microtiter plate functionalized as a solid-phase support for said solid-phase synthesis.